

WORLD OF RADIO #1223, produced March 10, 2004 by Glenn Hauser

- \*WOR now at 5 different times on WBCQ, newest Sunday 2330 on 9330-CLSB, and previous broadcast moved to UT Sun 0030 on same; also a newish one is Sat 2130 on 17495-CUSB
- \*Winter SWL Fest almost upon us March 11-13; WBCQ will broadcast a lot of shows from the Fest, not just Allan Weiner Worldwide, UT Sat 0100 on 7415; some on other frequencies, 5105, 9330, and especially Saturday daytime on 17495
- \*WBCQ to broadcast from motorsailor Katie, fitted out with studio, this spring; and also complete ham station aboard
- \*VOA cutting shortwave broadcasts in English by two thirds at the end of March, so will be tougher to hear; includes English to Americas, 0000-0200; also Africa, Asia
- \*Enamored with ill-conceived services instead like Radio Marti, Sawa
- \*AFGE Local 1812 at VOA says budget shortfalls are not the reason for cutting English, but change of priorities. Budget has actually increased slightly the last few years. Radio Free Iraq to be integrated into METN/Sawa, eliminate RFA in Cantonese; reduce English from 19 to 14 hours daily
- \*WWRB's new transmitter Global 5 now in use on 5050, 2300-0500 UT on 150 degrees to South America; another antenna reconfigured, 45 degree rhombic, changing vertical takeoff angle from 46 to 8 degrees at 12 MHz, to put better signal at a distance, such as Europe, by raising cables higher above ground
- \*FCC A-04 frequency schedule available for private US SW stations; WSHB still on schedule just in case; as is WWBS, Macon, GA, actually off the air since owner died last year: Sat & Sun 2300-0100 on 11910
- \*KIMF, Pinyon, New Mexico, still not on air, 5835 2200-1800, 11885 1600-2200; an overlap allowing flexibility in changeover time
- \*WMLK, Pennsylvania shows 250 kW 1600-2200 on 15265; and new 9955 with half power 125 kW 0300-0900, but not on air yet either; 9955 also used by WRMI so will have to coordinate with them. WMLK still on 9465 with old 50 kW, 1600-2200, 0300-0900
- \*KNLS, Alaska, changes frequencies monthly; March: 0800 11765, 1300 on 9655; from March 28 0800 still 11765, 1300 on 11870
- \*Radio Canada International, main evening to US then at 0100 will have CBC World at Six, instead of RCI Canada Today, but the RCI weekly programs including mailbag will be retained at 0130
- \*Another SW station destined for extinction shortly: XERMX, Radio Mexico International. IMER says it would cost too much to replace ailing transmitters, and hey, BBC already cut SW to North America. But IMER will invest more in internet broadcasting. Staff was told in mid-Feb but just now coming out thru anonymous source. No date given for closure, and I am still hearing it as of March 11; 9705 and maybe 11770. March 10 at 1400 in the clear, [but VOA Saipan in Cantonese normally blocks]; call-in discussing 1954 CIA coup in Guatemala

- \*Radio Huayacocotla, Veracruz, 2390 kHz, lengthy feature article in DX Listening Digest 4-044, via <http://www.worldofradio.com>
- \*XERTA, 4810, Mexico, what a strange station, terrible sound quality yet uses operatic background music, English station breaks claiming continental coverage; review by Steve Waldee
- \*Radio Maya de Barillas, Guatemala, 3324.8, nice morning show with no echo chamber, no hype and hysteria, like circa 1939
- \*The 1223rd edition of World of Radio, woradio at yahoo.com or P O Box 1684, Enid, OK 73702, USA
- \*Thanks this week for financial support go to Michael Beu
- \*Bjoern Malm in Quito has his own website now with audio clips of hot SW DX in Latin America, and local MW stations, Voces de America Latina <http://www.malm-ecuador.com>
- \*Radio Nacional del Paraguay reactivated on 9736.9v, irregularly between 2200 and 0200 mostly with sports
- \*RTV Malagasy, Madagascar, 5010 was on late March 6 past 2330; due to cyclone hitting the island; usual sign-off is 1900
- \*Cyclone caused power shortage and Radio Nederland relay off temporarily tho no damage; not heard March 8 at 1700 but back at 2000 on 11655
- \*Radio Peace, a mystery station heard on 4750, at 0315, English IDs and African vernaculars, but no location given; also at 1612-1655. Solution seems to be via <http://www.persecutionproject.org> --- new Christian station for Sudan. More at <http://www.missionvisionnetwork.org> [not missionnetwork as I said]
- \*New Somali SW station, Radio Shabele, adjusted from 6961 to 6960; heard in Sweden almost every evening around 2015-2100\*; tentative in Michigan opening at 0357
- \*If R. Mexico International imagines internet is a suitable replacement for SW, they must have had a very tiny audience; Swiss Radio International, now known as Swiss Info, page won't load for days in a row, so no text or audio
- \*Switzerland about to close SW permanently at end of October 2004; so their last SW transmitter, 500 kW ABB at Sottens is for sale, either whole or as spare parts; covers 5.9 to 26.1 MHz, built in 1989
- \*A third Albanian MW frequency for relays of China, 1215, as well as 1395, 1458; also high-power; 1600 Albanian, 1700 Esperanto, 1800 Romanian
- \*CRI says it is broadcasting in Finnish on FM, in Helsinki: a local company translates the English program and broadcasts it in Finnish
- \*Fan site for Radio Tirana, under construxion: <http://www.rtirana.8m.com>
- \*Chief of Radio Kontynent, Ukraine, had to flee the country to avoid arrest; another station chief, Yuta Radio, on way to negotiate with Radio Liberty, was killed in mysterious auto accident
- \*Non-identifier on 6025 with Christian programming to Iraq at 0030-0330 turns out to be Bible Voice Broadcasting via Germany; same on 7340 at 2230-2325+

- \*Lao National Radio, 7145, heard with English at 1330-1359\* but is irregular, weak modulation; better signal in Philippines on 4660 Luang Prabang, listed with much less power
- \*Plans to axe the Radio National network of the ABC in Australia, upon which Radio Australia relies for much of its programming
- \*Radio New Zealand's new schedule from March 28: from 2051 on 15720; 0459 to 9615; 0706 to 9885; 1100 9885 on different beam; 1300 6095, 1851 on 9885; [1951 on 11725]
- \*Air America, the new Liberal radio network, signed up affiliate in New York City, WLIB -- coincidentally already its call letters; with Al Franken, Janeane Garofalo, Randi Rhodes
- \*Travel info station at LAX authorized to increase power on 530 to 100 watts, in case of terrorist emergency, but is even that enough in the greater LA area?
- \*World Radio TV Handbook will publish no more Shortwave Guides in summer: not enough sales; hope they continue with monthly updates on website
- \*Propagation outlook from Boulder March 9: flux range 125-90
- \*Did you know that DX stands for ``I am sinking`` in an Argentine military code?
- \*Glenn Hauser concluding with a standard disclaimer, World of Radio 1223 ###